



ATF News

**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
Los Angeles Field Division**

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ATF LOS ANGELES HOSTS SECOND CITIZENS' ACADEMY

LOS ANGELES – John A. Torres, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Los Angeles Field Division, announced today that his office will host its second annual ATF Citizens' Academy beginning tomorrow. The academy seeks to better inform the community about ATF's mission and programs by educating business, media, government and community leaders in the Los Angeles area.

"The Citizens' Academy will give local business, civic, religious and community leaders an inside look at federal law enforcement in general and ATF in particular," Torres said. "The overall goal is to build relationships and understanding between the ATF offices and its community to help the citizens' make their communities a better and safer place."

The Citizens' Academy is open to 20 students and is offered twice a year. Students must be a civic, religious or community leader, at least 21 years old (with no prior felony convictions), and must live and/or work within the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Field Division.

Course curriculum includes ATF's history, mission, jurisdiction; explosives detection canine, certified fire investigator (CFI) and certified explosives specialist (CES) programs; ATF Laboratory Services; Special Response Team (SRT); industry operations functions; firearms familiarization (firing range day); and programs available at the Southern California Regional Crime Gun Center.

The next Los Angeles Field Division Citizens' Academy is scheduled for the fall of 2007. For additional information, please visit the Los Angeles Field Division web page at <http://www.atf.gov/field/losangeles/citizensacademy.htm>

More information on ATF and its programs is www.atf.gov.

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